

Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 MC-02 AID-05

OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 IGA-01 /084 W

----- 070024

R 021145Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2239

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

13TH ADVON UDORN

USSAG NAKHON PHANOM

DIA WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU

UNCLAS BANGKOK 5517

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR MARR, TH. CB

SUBJECT: KHUKRIT ON THE TRANSPORTATION OF WEAPONS TO CAMBODIA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PRIME MINISTER KHUKRIT PRAMOT HELD A NEWS CONFERENCE
MARCH 31. FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL USIS TRANSLATION OF
HIS REMARKS ON THE TRANSPORTATION OF WEAPONS TO CAMBODIA,

REPORTER: WILL DISCUSSIONS AND CONSULTATIONS ON THE CAMBODIAN
ISSUE BE HELD IN THE CABINET MEETING?

KHUKRIT: MOST PROBABLY NOT BECAUSE WE HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT
IN PRINCIPLE ALREADY. IN OTHER WORDS WE WILL NOT INTERFERE
IN ANY WAY WHATSOEVER.

REPORTER: WILL YOU ISSUE A LETTER EMPHASIZING THIS? EVERY
UNIT SAYS THERE IS NO ORDER FROM YOU IN REGARD TO...

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KHUKRIT: WHAT?

REPORTER: IN REGARD TO THE TRANSPORTATION OF WEAPONS.

KHUKRIT THAT IS THE DUTY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS , NOT OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE. BUT IN ANY CASE, NO ORDER CAN BE ISSUED TO THEM I KNOW NOTHING REGARDING THE TRANSPORTATION OF ANYTHING ANYWHERE. THIS IS THE POSITION. THE ETO HAS A CONTRACT WITH AMERICAN AUTHORITIES. I CANNOT GIVE IT ANY ORDER. IT CAN TRANSPORT ANYTHING, BUT IT IS NOT TRANSPORTING WEAPONS ONLY IT TRANSPORTS FOODSTUFFS ALSO. DO YOU UNDERSTAND THAT? ALL WE CAN DO IS TO STATE OUR PRINCIPLE THAT WE DO NOT WANT WEAPONS TO BE TRANSPORTED. SHOULD WE ASK THEM. THEY WOULD SAY THAT THEY ARE NOT TRANSPORTING WEAPONS. AND THAT WOULD BE THE END OF THE MATTER.

REPORTER: WITH WHOM IS THIS CONTRACT CONCLUDED?

KHUKRIT: IT IS A CONTRACT CONCLUDED WITH AMERICA FOR THE ETO TO TRANSPORT SUPPLIES. IT COULD GO AND TRANSPORT SUPPLIES IN CAMBODIA. EMPTY TRUCKS COULD BE SENT TO TRANSPORT SUPPLIES THERE, NOT IN THAILAND ONLY.

REPORTER: THIS CONTRACT...

KHUKRIT IT IS A VERY OLD ONE, WHICH WAS CONCLUDED YEARS AGO.

REPORTER: SINCE WHEN DID WE EMPHASIZE THAT THERE MUST BE NO TRANSPORTATION OF WEAPONS?

KHUKRIT: WE HAVE INFORMED THEM ALREADY. FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI HAS INFORMED THEM ALREADY. SINCE THE DAY ON WHICH NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED REPORTS, NO SUCH ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN CARRIED ON AGAIN. ESPECIALLY SINCE THE SITUATION HAS CHANGED. COMPLETELY ALREADY.
MASTERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRANSPORTATION, ARMS, POLICIES, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BANGKO05517
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750114-0209
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750491/aaaadeui.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <08 JAN 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KHUKRIT ON THE TRANSPORTATION OF WEAPONS TO CAMBODIA CINCPAC FOR POLAD
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, TH, CB, (KHUKRIT PRAMOT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006